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Sarah Ricketts to Susan Kean, March 14, 1789

Sarah Ricketts

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Letters

I have received two Letters from you lately my dear Susan, one dated the 2nd the other the 15th of February, you complain of my not writing, I think my Letters must have miscarried as I have written by every opportunity I heard of, & sent Letters to M^{rs} Barnwell to forward, when I did not know of any opportunity, you mention receiving Letters from M^{rs} B. & none from us, that must have been immediately after he left us, he told me when he got to New-York he heard of a vessel going immediately, & had not time to let me know of it. - You desire me to inform you, who M^{rs} Barnwell danced with at the first Assembly here, I am afraid he boasts too much of his partner, but as he is at a distance from home, it was very well to make his Friends believe he had the best, it must have been either M^{rs} E. Dayton or me, for he did not dance with any young Lady: his Friends I think need not be very anxious about his Heart, he had heard so much of the

Lady's at New-York he said, that he was determined
to keep a ~~good~~ ^{good} over it, & I believe he was as
good as his word for when I went to New-York
I found he was not known by any of the Lady's
of my acquaintance, I advised him when he went
from here, to be introduced to M.^{rs} Colden & put
himself under her care, but I found he did not
even know her, I offered one night at M.^r Griffin
to introduce him to her, but he did not wish it,
he was satisfied he said looking at her, she is
younger I think this Winter than ever, she dances
cotillions with very short petticoats, & a great
many new graces; she was very civil to me
made a party, & invited all the Beaus in Town,
& offered to go with me to every publick place.
M.^r B. was the only Member of Congress, that was in
a genteel Circle, that did not go to the Countess
I asked him why he did not do as the other
Members did, he said it was against the rules
of Congress, that the others evaded it by going
to see the Marchioness, but as the Countess took
those Visits to himself he did not think it right

The other Members laughed at the Idea of this new
young Member, & thought when he had seen a
little more of the World, he would do as they did
pass their time as agreeable as it was in their
power, I told him as Mr. Cooley was a much older
Man & had been in Congress before, I thought he
could not err, with respect to the Etiquette if he
followed his example, I was anxious for him
to go, as I thought Mr. Otto would ~~be~~ wish
to be civil to him on your account, & I believe
tho I do not know it, that Mr. Otto has not
visited him, or taken any notice of him, when
he went from here, I gave him a Letter to Mr. O
& told him that he was a particular Friend of
yours & I made no Doubt he would be happy
to shew him any civility in his power, sometime
after he came over here, & I asked him how he
liked Mr. B. he said he had not seen him, that
he sent the Letters; but had not called on him
or the Count, I told him I thought it was the
Fashion, when a Gentleman brought a Letter of

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recommendation to another, to wait upon the
stranger immediately - he laughed, & said in-
deed, - stroked his hand over my face, & appear-
ed not to wish to say any more about it -
I thought perhaps the Count would not have
liked it, & I have never said any more about
it to him. I have heard nothing more of Don
Galvez & Gardoqui, I fancy it was a story, Gardo-
qui talked of taking a House for next year,
he says if he does not go, he shall want it; & if
he does there will be some body in his place that
will want it. M^r R. returned from N. York last
night he says your things are to go to-morrow R. C.
told him, the Gardiner is a going to N. Y. this mo-
ment he only waits for my commands, I have not
yet collected many Flower seeds, I have been begging
but have not been very successful yet, I send you
half of what I have, & shall send more, when I get
them from M^r J. Hyllon, John Livingston promised me to
write to his Mother for seeds of all sorts for you, & to get
some from M^{rs} Lewis & send you, The Family are all well
& unite in love to you M^r R. & the little yearling -
March 14th Abyssinian - ever yours L. R.